Development of Tirupati Devasthanam

996. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to develop Tirupati Devasthanam in Andhra Pradesh as tourism pilgrimage centre; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Development of tourism pilgrimage centres is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations.

However, during the 10th Five Year Plan, the Department of Tourism, Govt, of India has formulated schemes for Integrated Development of Tourist Centres, Development of Product/Infrastructure & Destination Development and Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects for development of tourism infrastructure in the country. The circuits/ destinations are identified in consultation and interaction with the State Governments/UT Administrations.

All State Governments/UT Administrations including Government of Andhra Pradesh have been requested to submit the proposals under the above mentioned schemes for the financial year 2003-04.

Facelift to the Sun Temple

997. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Archaeological Survey of India proposes to give a facelift to the Sun Temple of Konark in Orissa to woo tourists; and

(b) the kinds of inputs in the form of infra-structural facilities and promotional efforts etc. to achieve the objective?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A development plan has been formulated to provide documentation-cum-cultural information centre, bus/car parking and

shoping plaza to rehabilitate shopkeepers, and to developed the environs around the Sun Temple besides illumination with soft lighting.

Recovery of outstanding amount by ITDC

†998. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ITDC has decided to seek help of private agencies for recovering amount from its defaulters on the lines of Citi Bank;

(b) whether ITDC has outstanding amount of about Rs. 30 crores against hotel and travel companies and also Government, semi-Government and private companies;

(c) whether the decision of the Corporation is judicious; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The total outstanding amount was Rs. 30.24 crore (Provisional) upto 30th June, 2003.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Establishment of I.A.H.S.

999. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish an Indian Archaeological and Heritage Service (IAHS);

(b) what norms are prescribed and what is the nature of training' contemplated; and

(c) by when it will come into operation?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.